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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB99/01228 (22) International Filing Date: 22 April 1999 (22.04.99) (30) Priority Data: 9808582.2 22 April 1998 (22.04.98) GB (63) Related by Continuation (CON) or Continuation-in-Part (CIP) to Earlier Application US 60/084,881 (CIP) Filed on 8 May 1998 (08.05.98) (71) Applicant (for GB only): MARSDEN, John, Christopher [GB/GB]; Frank B. Dehn & Co., 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4EL (GB). (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NYCOMED IMAGING AS [NO/NO]; Nycoveien 2, P.O. Box 4220 Torshov, N-0401 Oslo (NO). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): SKURTVEIT, Roald [NO/NO]; Nycomed Imaging AS, Nycoveien 2, P.O. Box 4220 Torshov, N-0401 Oslo (NO). HJELSTUEN, Olaug [NO/NO]; Nycomed Imaging AS, Nycoveien 2, P.O. Box		4220 Torshov, N-0401 Oslo (NO). ØSTENSEN, Jonny [NO/NO]; Nycomed Imaging AS, Nycoveien 2, P.O. Box 4220 Torshov, N-0401 Oslo (NO). (74) Agents: MARSDEN, John, Christopher et al.; Frank B. Dehn & Co., 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4EL (GB). (81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: ULTRASOUND CONTRAST AGENT DISPERSIONS COMPRISING GAS AND DESTABILISING AGENT		
(57) Abstract Ultrasonic visualisation of a subject, particularly of perfusion in the myocardium and other tissues, is performed using novel gas-containing contrast agent preparations which provide controllable and temporary growth of the gas phase <i>in vitro</i> following administration and can therefore act as deposited perfusion tracers. The preparations comprise an injectable aqueous gas dispersion and an administrable substance or substances capable of destabilising the dispersed gas to provide temporary growth thereof. In cardiac perfusion imaging the preparations may advantageously be coadministered with vasodilator drugs such as adenosine in order to enhance the differences between return signal intensity from normal and hypoperfused myocardial tissue respectively.		

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